



December 12th, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

RE: MB Docket No 05-311 In the Matter of Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992

We are writing in support of the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) in the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making. We oppose the tentative conclusions the FCC reaches in the proceeding because of their impacts on our community.

Duluth Public Access Community Television (PACT) in Duluth, Minnesota has and continues to serve our community by offering, encouraging and enabling individuals and other non-profit groups a platform they would not otherwise have to use their voice to communicate messages of hope, faith and compassion. In the words of long-standing member Henry Koski “Public Access is the only true voice of the people.”

This local presence encourages viewers in Duluth, Minnesota and St. Louis County to watch cable television as was intended by the 1984 Cable Act - by enhancing local voices, serving local viewers and strengthening our local democracy. By defining “in-kind” support in an overly broad fashion, the rule making will shift the fair balance between local and state authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels which was never the intent of the Act.

By allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities if they opt for local channels, the FNPRM diminishes the ability of PEG channels to serve communities such as ours. We ask that it not be adopted.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
The People of Duluth, Minnesota, Jim Wisniewski and Liz Minette, Executive Directors, PACT-TV